A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. C. E. Noronha).—

Name of the Factory	(a) The number of employees drawing Rs. 250 and above per mensem.	The number of employees drawing between Rs. 100 and Rs. 250 per mensem	The number of employees drawing between Rs. 25 and Rs. 100 per mensem	(b) The number of Muslims drawing Rs. 250 and above per mensem	The number of Muslims drawing between Rs. 100 and Rs 250 per mensem	The number of Muslims drawing between Rs. 25 and Rs 100 per mensem
The Government Soap Factory.	1	2	33	...	...	3
The Government Porcelain Factory.	...	1	26	...		2
The Government Electric Factory.	2	4	1	...	...	...

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG.—The policy of industrialization in the State is being pursued with the sole object of affording facilities for all communities to get industrially-minded and to share the profits of industry. But, has it come to the notice of Government that Muslims are not having the benefits of that policy?

Mr. C. E. NORONHA.—No.

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG.—Are any applications from Muslim candidates for appointment in the several industrial concerns of the Government, pending consideration?

Mr. C. E. NORONHA.—I am not aware of any, just now.

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG.—If any such cases are brought to notice, will they be considered sympathetically?

Mr. C. E. NORONHA.—Yes.

Educated Men of the Jyotinagara Vaisya Community.

Q.—76. Mr. A. DASAPPA (Minorities).—

Will the Government be pleased to state the number of students belonging to the Jyotinagara Vaisya (Ganiga) community who have passed the S.S.L.C., Intermediate, B.A. and B.L. examinations during the years 1935 to 1940 (full particulars regarding their names, the places to which they belong, etc., may kindly be furnished)?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMEMT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda).—

A statement furnishing the information is placed on the table (*vide* Appendix).

Mr. D. VENKATARAMANAPPA.—From the statement appended to the answer, it is seen that there are only two graduates belonging to this community. Does it not point to the necessity of giving special encouragement to members of the community such as by means of scholarships, etc.

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—That is not a request for information.

REPRESENTATIONS—*concld.*

No. 38.—Abolition of the levy of fees in middle schools.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH (Seringapatam Municipality).

It is prayed that fees should not be levied in the middle schools as contemplated by Government.

No. 39.—Abolition of the levy of fees in the middle schools.

Messrs. S. B. JOGANNA GOWDA and B. L. HUTCHAPPA (Channarayapatna Taluk) and all the other MEMBERS of the Hassan District.

Chances of school boys giving up their studies in the middle schools are great if fees are imposed upon them. It is prayed that the proposal to levy fees in the middle schools may, therefore, be dropped.

No. 40.—Abolition of fees for middle school classes.

Mr. H. M. MALLIKARJUNAPPA (Tarikere Taluk).

The percentage of literate persons in the State at present does not exceed 7 to 8. If fees are levied in middle school classes, the

percentage of literacy in the State is likely to go down further. It is prayed that fees may not be levied in middle schools.

No. 41.—Abolition of fees in middle schools.

Messrs. Patel MALLAPPA and **Vankalapathi THIMMIAH** (Chitaldrug Taluk).

As no fees were levied in middle schools up till now, it was very easy for the students in rural parts to prosecute their studies and consequently, the spread of education among the masses was tangible. Now that fees are being levied in middle schools of late, it has caused much inconvenience and trouble for the education of boys and girls both in the villages and towns. It is, therefore, prayed that the fees now being levied in middle schools be kindly abolished.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH represented that fees should not be levied in middle schools as contemplated by the Government.

The PRESIDENT observed that copies of the report of the Elementary Education Committee would be distributed among the members and that this question might be taken up at a later stage, after the members of the House had had enough time to go through the report and understand the reasons for which the Government were proposing to re-impose fees in middle schools.

No. 42.—Establishing another middle school in the Hunsur Taluk.

Mr. VENKATARAMANE GOWDA (Hunsur Taluk).

No. 43.—Establishment of a middle school at Mamballi.

Messrs. N. Bhogi MALLIAH and **H. P. BASAPPA** (Heggaddevankote Taluk); **G. MALLANNA** (Mysore Taluk); **B. CHANNAPPA** (Krishnarajanagar Taluk); **Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMY** (Mysore City Municipality); **M. N. MAHANTADEVARU** (T.-Narsipur Taluk); **K. C. SUBBANNA** (Gundlupet Taluk); and **BASAVANNADEVARU** (Yelandur Jahgir).

Mr. VENKATARAMANE GOWDA represented that in the Hunsur Taluk, there was only one middle school and the children were finding it difficult to come to the taluk headquarters to continue their studies. It was therefore necessary that another school should be opened at Bilikere to provide facilities for young children in the interior of the taluk to continue their studies. As things stood at present, even the conveniences available in the malnad were not to be found in the Hunsur Taluk.

Mr. Bhogi MALLIAH prayed that a middle school be established at Mamballi, Yelandur Jahgir.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) explained that the existing number of middle schools in the State was by no means sufficient and that was why the Elementary Education Committee had proposed that more middle schools should be opened. That question was under the consideration of Government. The committee had also suggested in their report ways and means of financing the scheme, and copies of the report would be circulated to the members for information. He was of opinion that if those suggestions were accepted and necessary action taken on those lines, all complaints about expansion of middle school education could be remedied.

No. 44.—Facilities for primary education.

Mr. M. RAMANNA GOWDA (Koppal Taluk).

No. 45.—Creation of educational facilities in the rural parts.

Messrs. S. B. JOGANNA GOWDA and **B. L. HUTCHAPPA** (Channarayapatna Taluk) and **all the other MEMBERS** of the Hassan District.

Mr. M. RAMANNA GOWDA represented that the minimum strength of pupils required for opening a primary school in the malnad was 20. As houses in the malnad were few and far between, it was very difficult to get together even this minimum number, and as a result thereof, a good number of schools whose strength fell short of 20 had come to be closed down and some more were about to share the same fate. This was resulting in a set-back to education in the malnad. He therefore prayed that the existing rule be modified and the minimum strength be reduced from 20 to 12 in the case of the malnad schools.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) replied that the suggestion would be examined.

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK brought

to notice that under the existing rules, 100 pupils had been fixed as the minimum required for opening an upper primary school. While that number might be all right so far as the maidan was concerned, it worked as a great hardship in the case of the malnad. He was of opinion that the minimum should be reduced to 50 in respect of the malnad. The Kadur School Board had also sent up a recommendation to that effect, but so far no reply had been received from the higher authorities.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that that suggestion also would be examined.

No. 46.—Gangakula community to be shown separately from Yadava community.

Mr. A. VENKATARAMANA BOYI (Minorities).

Mr. A. VENKATARAMANA BOYI represented that though the population of the Gangakula community in the State was over 1·75 lakhs, it had been clubbed with the Yadava community for purposes of the grant of scholarships. This had resulted in deserving students of the community not getting any encouragement. For this reason, the community should be shown as separate from the Yadava community and given scholarships independently.

The PRESIDENT observed that it would not be possible to show each sub-caste separately under the scholarship scheme and allot separate scholarships to each of them.

No. 47.—Scholarships to Nayanaja Kshatriya community.

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH (Minorities).

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH represented that many students belonging to the Nayanaja Kshatriya community in the Mysore State were getting scholarships in the middle school, high school and other classes, by saying that they belonged to the Nayanaja Kshatriya or Nayinda community. Three or four scholarships were being awarded to students of this community in each district. Though there were two sub-sects in this community, *viz.*, Andhra and Karnataka, the scholarship committees were not granting these scholarships after ascertaining to which of them these students belonged, as the census figures did not group the two sub-sects separately. In some places, persons belonging to Andhra sub-sect called themselves Telugu Banajigas. For these reasons, he prayed that, in connection with the next census, necessary action might be taken to define this community properly by taking the opinions of people of this community in each district who had proper knowledge in these matters and that the scholarship committees be instructed to award scholarships after ascertaining definitely the exact nature of the sub-sect to which the candidates belonged. He further prayed that the number of scholarships be suitably enhanced.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) replied that the Agasa and the Kumbara communities had been clubbed with the Nayinda community for purposes of allotting scholarships. The population of these three communities together was about 3 lakhs. Of this, only one-fifth or about 45,000 belonged to the Nayinda community. To this group, 25 scholarships in the high school grade and 26 in the middle school grade had been allotted. On the basis of population, the Nayinda community should get five scholarships in the high schools and an equal number in the middle schools. As against this number, 15 scholarships in the high school and 9 in the middle school grade had been awarded to this community and as such, that community had no legitimate cause for grievance.

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH complained that the scholarships intended for the Nayinda community had been given away to other communities. This had resulted in some amount of hardship to the students of the former community.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) replied that the question of diverting the scholarships to other communities would arise only when there was a risk of their lapsing for want of applicants in the group to which they had been allotted.

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH represented that

scholarships intended for the community should not be given away to others and that the Telugu Banajigas and Lingayets should be excluded from the Nayinda community in the matter of the allotment of scholarships. He prayed that necessary alterations should be effected in the grouping of communities.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY pointed out that merely because some members of the Nayinda community wore *linga* and some used *vibhuti* while others put on the *nama* as their caste mark, it was not right to disown them from that community. The entire Nayinda community should be treated as one unit irrespective of caste marks or symbols used by them.

The PRESIDENT observed that the existing system of allotting scholarships according to main groups was quite sound. If each community be treated as a unit for the distribution of scholarships, he was afraid that every family would evolve into a sub-caste and that would be detrimental to the larger interests of the country.

No. 48.—Increasing the number of scholarships to students of Jyotinagara Vaisya community.

Mr. A. DASAPPA (Minorities).

Mr. A. DASAPPA represented that as the number of scholarships now allotted to the students of the Jyotinagara Vaisya community studying in the middle and high schools was very small, their number be suitably increased.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) replied that request would be considered.

No. 49.—Granting half-freeships to Viswakarma students.

Yajaman N. Y. VEERABHADRACHARYA (Minorities).

Yajaman N. Y. VEERABHADRACHARYA represented that the Viswakarma community was backward in education and very poor and that the members thereof were eking out their livelihood as wage-earners in their profession. They were quite unable to give their children higher education. In consideration of this fact, the Government of Madras had shown them concession by granting half-free studentships to the students of this community in all classes as per Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules. He prayed that a similar concession be shown to the students of that community in the model State of Mysore also.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) explained that the Viswakarma community was clubbed with Nagarthas for purposes of the award of backward class scholarships. Eighteen scholarships in middle schools and 17 in high schools were awarded to this group. Unlike in the Madras Presidency, education in the State was free up to the middle school stage. If the proposed fee concession was granted to one community, other communities also would naturally claim a similar concession. For these reasons, he said that it would not be feasible to grant the request.

Mr. VEERABHADRACHARYA pointed out that only a very small number of pupils were getting the benefit of scholarships. That by itself was not of sufficient help to the community. Illiteracy was appalling and even to this day the majority of his people did not know even to sign their names. The request, if granted, would go a long way to advance the community educationally. At present they had to rest content with their traditional profession although it was not at all paying.

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA replied that the rates of fees in high schools in the State were very much less than in the Madras Presidency. Besides, freeships to the extent of 20 per cent were being given. All scholarship-holders were treated as free students. The students of the community under reference were eligible to all those concessions along with others. If the prayer contained in the representation was conceded, it would involve not only loss of fee income to the Government but also payment of compensation to aided institutions. So he regretted that it would not be feasible to grant the concession prayed for.

No. 50.—Grant of half-freeships to students of the Mahratta community.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO SALANKEY (Minorities).

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO brought to notice that Dharmaprakasa Sajjan Rao had set apart one lakh of rupees for the education of the children of the Mahratta community. Another philanthropist, Mr. P. Krishna Rao, had started a middle school in Visvesvarapuram, Bangalore City, and the girls of all communities were being admitted into that school. The Mahratta community being a poor and backward one, it deserved to be encouraged specially. For these reasons, he prayed that all the students of the community studying in the high schools and colleges be given half-freeships as in the case of Musalmans.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) said that the students of the Mahratta community were already enjoying more concessions than others. They were eligible to the general scholarships and the 20 per cent freeships allotted to all the communities. Also all the pupils whose parents were serving in the Mysore Military units were treated as half-free scholars in all educational institutions. If the additional concession now asked for be granted, there was nothing to prevent other communities also claiming similar concessions. In this view, he did not consider that any fresh concession to this community was called for.

No. 51.—Establishment of an Intermediate College at Kolar.

Mr. A. G. MUDDURACHAPPA (Minorities).

Mr. A. G. MUDDURACHAPPA represented that the Kolar District was a big district comprising of eleven taluks including the Kolar Gold Field area and it was contributing nearly 25 per cent of the State revenues, and as such, it was desirable that an Intermediate College should be opened at Kolar to facilitate the students to prosecute higher studies.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) explained that only this year two such colleges had been opened, one at Shimoga and the other at Tumkur and that they were considered sufficient to meet the requirements at present. He, however, added that if necessity arose in future to open more colleges, the claims of Kolar would be duly considered.

Mr. A. G. MUDDURACHAPPA pointed out that there were 6 high schools in the district and as many as 300 to 400 pupils were coming out successful in the S. S. L. C. examination every year. If an Intermediate College was opened at Kolar as suggested, it would obviate a long-felt inconvenience to the pupils and their parents.

The PRESIDENT observed that as each Intermediate College would involve an extra expenditure of Rs. 60,000 per annum, it was not possible to grant the request for the present.

No. 52.—Treatment of persons belonging to the Nayanaja Kshatriya community in Muzrai temples.

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH (Minorities).

Mr. S. C. BELURIAH represented that when persons belonging to Nayanaja Kshatriya community went to muzrai temples during car festivals, other festivities or special occasions, with offerings of cocoanuts, plantains, etc., a differential treatment was meted out to them. In spite of their cleanliness and the great devotion and enthusiasm with which they went to the temple, the *archaks* would not touch the plates containing their offerings and they were even refused admission inside the temple. They felt insulted thereby and returned to their homes with depressed spirits. As the temple authorities had not been paying any attention to this matter with a view to rectify it, he prayed that the benign Government, on whose paternal care this community was depending might be pleased to pass orders directing that people of this community should no longer be continued to be insulted in the manner referred to above.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) said that this was the first occasion on which the matter was brought to the notice of Government. Personally he was not aware of any such differential treatment

in the muzrai temples. Now that the matter had been brought to notice, he said that necessary enquiries would be instituted.

No. 53.—Revival of the Government Order granting first preference to the Adikarnataka candidates for Government appointments.

Mr. M. MADIAH (Minorities).

Mr. M. MADIAH represented that for the progress of the Adikarnatakas, the Government Order granting first preference to Adikarnataka candidates in Government appointments (other things being equal) which had been cancelled, should be immediately revived by the benign Government.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) replied that there were certain concessions which were being enjoyed by the community already. The Chairman of the Central Recruitment Board had been empowered to recommend the appointment in special cases of the Depressed Class candidates in preference to others. This was being done wherever necessary. For this reason, he said that there was no need to revive the concession or to show first preference in appointments which was being shown originally.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA explained that the object of the member in tabling the representation was to request the Government that the first preference rule should be adopted as a general rule in filling up vacancies.

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA pointed out that this might lead to difficulties. Besides, the rules of recruitment were likely to undergo revision in the immediate future and it was not therefore desirable to effect any changes now.

No. 54.—Encouragement to Kumbara people.

Mr. K. BUSSIAH (Minorities).

Mr. K. BUSSIAH represented that encouragement be given to the Kumbara community by giving suitable appointments in Government service to educated members of the community and also by nominating them as members of local bodies such as municipalities, district boards, school boards, etc.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) explained that there were many other minor communities like the Kumbaras and that to the extent possible, Government were encouraging them.

No. 55.—Appointments to candidates of Gangakula community.

Mr. A. VENKATARAMANA BOYI (Minorities.)

Mr. A. VENKATARAMANA BOYI represented that persons belonging to the Gangakula community who were either already in service or were fresh recruits be appointed in the Excise, Electrical, Revenue and Police Departments as Excise Range Inspectors, Senior Operators, Revenue Probationers, etc.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda) said that the claims of qualified candidates of the community for higher appointments were being considered with due regard to the principle of providing for adequate representation of all castes and communities in the State service.

No. 56.—Appointments to persons belonging to the Jyotinagara Vaisya community.

Mr. A DASAPPA (Minorities).

Mr. A. DASAPPA represented that the candidates belonging to the Jyotinagara Vaisya (Ganiga) community be given suitable appointments in Government service according to their qualifications. It was a matter for regret even the cases of those in service were being overlooked in sanctioning promotions. The case of Mr. Gopaliah was an instance in point. While his juniors had been promoted as Amildars, he continued to remain where he was. His case should be favourably considered and he should be promoted as an Amildar. Also, qualified candidates of the community should be appointed as Probationers in the several departments.

The PRESIDENT observed that the member was not doing any service to the official concerned in recommending

his case. On the other hand, he was doing him a disservice. Such a representation might result in the official not getting even his usual promotion.

No. 57.—Reduction of interest on loans issued by the Land Mortgage Banks.

Mr. B. DONDE GOWDA (Hassan Taluk) and **all the other MEMBERS** of the Hassan District.

Mr. B. DONDE GOWDA represented that as a result of the high rates of interest on loans granted by the land mortgage banks, the raiyats were put to great hardship. For example, any one taking a loan of a thousand rupees would have to pay by way of interest alone, a sum of Rs. 1,500 in addition to his loan amount. It was therefore necessary that the interest on long term loans should be reduced from 8 to 6 per cent, and on short term loans from 9 to 7 per cent. He also brought to notice that for months after a loan application was given, the party would not know whether the loan would be sanctioned or not. Such of those who were depending upon this loan amount for the discharge of their other debts were being put to great hardship as a result of this uncertainty of their getting the loans. So, arrangements for the speedy disposal of the loan applications was also an absolute necessity.

The REGISTRAR of CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES (Mr. M. Abdul Hukh), answering the points raised, said that since the year 1937-38 the rate of interest charged by the land mortgage banks had been reduced from 8 per cent to 7 per cent. And to those who paid their instalments punctually, a rebate of one per cent had been allowed in 1938-39, which reduced the interest to 6 per cent practically. Government were also giving subventions to the Land Mortgage Bank to the extent of Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000 to reduce its expenditure.

Referring to the delays in sanctioning loans mentioned by the member, he said that when the societies were started newly, investigations by them of particulars relating to the properties mortgaged to the society as security such as extent, ownership, etc., were neither satisfactory nor correct in many cases. Correct information had to be obtained before the loans could be sanctioned and this necessarily took some time. Government had in recent years appointed an Inspector for a group of 4 taluks, and this had helped the banks to collect the particulars required quickly and as a result thereof, the loan applications were being disposed of as speedily as possible.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH said that he could not agree with what the Registrar of Co-operative Societies had stated. Speaking of Seringapatam, he said that in many cases in which the records were complete and nothing was wanting, there had been enormous delays in sanctioning the loans.

Mr. M. ABDUL HUKH said that if such instances were brought to his notice, he would make the necessary enquiries.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA said that for months together, there would be no intimation from the bank whether the loan had been sanctioned or not. It was desirable to fix a period within which a reply should be sent.

Mr. M. ABDUL HUKH said that the banks were sending intimations to the parties concerned. If there were instances of inordinate delays, they might be brought to notice.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO said that the main reason for the delay was that the raiyats in many cases had not in their possession any title deeds. They depended entirely on the receipts they had obtained for the payment of kandayam. That was why full information could not be furnished by them at the first instance. In some cases the delay was due to the directors keeping the papers with them for an unduly long period.

Mr. KRISHNA RAO GANESHA RAO GURUJAR endorsed the above statement.

Mr. MAYI GOWDA said that at present the banks were issuing loans to the parties to the extent of 50 per cent of the valuation of the properties made by the banks. That was not of much

advantage to the raiyats whose indebtedness was nearly 90 per cent of the value of their landed properties. Secondly, as the new Moneylenders Act was already in force, they could not get loans easily from others. So with a view to make the banks more useful and helpful to the raiyats, loans should be given to the extent of 75 per cent of the valuation of the properties. Thirdly, after the investigations were over, there should be no unavoidable delay in the execution of documents and payment of the loan amount to the parties. At present, there was an interval of more than three or four months between the dates of completion of the investigations and of getting money from the banks. Fourthly, in many cases the parties would depend upon the clerks of the banks to write the application form and fill in the necessary details. The clerks would take their own time according to their whims and fancies and this was contributing in no small measure to the delay in the raiyats getting money from the banks. With a view to afford facilities to the parties, the secretaries of the banks should be directed to instruct the clerks concerned to entertain the applications of the agriculturists and render them all possible help to get the applications written up, etc. Also the directors of the banks should be instructed not to keep the papers with them for long periods. If the above suggestions were given effect to, he thought much of the trouble of the raiyats would vanish.

Mr. M. ABDUL HUKH said that in the Madras Presidency, loans were being given only to the extent of 40 per cent of the valuation and it was only in the Mysore State that loans up to 50 per cent were being allowed. The repayment of loans would be spread over a period of 25 years and during this period, there was every likelihood of the lands deteriorating. So it would not be safe to advance anything more than 50 per cent of the amount of valuation.

Referring to delays in the investigation and payment of money to the parties, **Mr. M. ABDUL HUKH** said that some cases of delay had come to his notice. But after the appointment of Inspectors for this purpose, the delays had been considerably reduced. Also with a view to further expedite the disposal of these applications, arrangements had been made for joint inspection of the properties by the Inspectors and the Directors of the banks. This scheme had reduced delays to the extent of 50 per cent as in place of two independent investigations one after the other, there would be only one joint inspection. He also added that as the Inspectors had been instructed to help the raiyats in filling up the necessary details in the various forms, they need not depend upon the whims and fancies of the clerks of the banks. All these measures were being taken for some time past and as a result thereof much of the alleged delays had been reduced to a considerable extent.

Mr. MAYI GOWDA said that as there was at present one Inspector for every four taluks, he would not be available to the raiyats always, but only once in a fortnight or twenty days. So it was desirable that the clerks of the banks should be instructed to render all possible assistance to the raiyats without any delay whatever. Continuing, he said that no useful purpose would be served by comparing the conditions in the State with those existing elsewhere. The benefits derived by the agriculturists at present from the land mortgage banks were not much and required to be improved, and for this purpose, Government should see their way to grant loans up to 75 per cent of the valuation made by the bank authorities.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH added that as the loan amount would be getting reduced year after year as a result of the payment of instalments, there would be no harm in raising the percentage of loans to be granted to 75 per cent of the valuation amount. If there was any default, the bank could proceed against the property mortgaged to it.

Mr. M. ABDUL HUKH felt that it would not be safe to go beyond the 50 per cent limit fixed at present. He was aware of certain instances in which lands worth actually Rs. 100 were valued at Rs. 150.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH then brought to notice another difficulty which the raiyats were experiencing. If a person owned landed and house property and if both of them were mortgaged to a private party, the land mortgage bank would not be of any help to such a person because the bank would value only the land and give 50 per cent of the amount of valuation, and would not give any loan on the house property. The only course open to the person was either to mortgage the house separately to some other party or not to seek the help of the land mortgage bank at all. If the maximum limit of loan to be granted on any property was raised to 75 per cent of the amount of valuation fixed by the authorities, not only the lands, but also the house properties could be released from the prior encumbrances. This would save the people from borrowing from two separate parties and making payments to them.

Mr. NAWAB SHER KHAN was not in favour of raising the limit to 75 per cent as prayed for by the previous members in view of the fact that the value of properties had fallen considerably and recoveries had become difficult. Fifty per cent was a reasonable limit and it should not be enhanced. He however added that there was much to be done to reduce delays in the disposal of the loan applications.

Mr. MIR MAHOMED HUSSEIN said that his experience was that the parties were mentioning in the loan applications only the prior encumbrances on the lands proposed to be mortgaged to the banks, and not their other loans. In many instances, when the properties were being valued, other parties had come up with their claims for the unsecured debts advanced by them. This was leading to a lot of difficulty.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO enquired whether the Government had realised the supreme fact that they had become a big money-lender.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) said that Government could not agree to that statement and that the member was overstating the facts.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO pointed out that the land mortgage bank scheme was sanctioned by the Government to provide some relief to the raiyats and a number of banks were established in the various taluks in the State. The Government were paying an interest of 2½ to 3 per cent on the loans raised by them. That being so, he said he could not understand what justification there was for them to charge 9 to 10 per cent on loans given by them to the raiyats and why the raiyats should be harassed in this manner.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN said that the member was postulating on things which were not correct. It was at the request of the people that the scheme was introduced and not with the object of shrinking the money-lenders' business.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO remarked that whatever might have been the intention of the Government, the result had been that private credit had suffered.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN observed that facile credit was a curse.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO explained that what all was asked for was that the rates of interest charged by the banks should be reduced.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that it was being done to the extent possible.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO thought that much more was possible. Government had lots of money in the savings banks on which they were paying interest ranging from 2½ to 3 per cent. This money could be lent out to the land mortgage banks at a reasonable rate of interest to enable those institutions to charge to their clients a lower rate of interest than at present. This was another mode of distribution of the wealth of the country, and people would stand to benefit by it.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN observed that whatever interest Government were getting, they were spending on works which were of lasting benefit to the State, and not reserving it for themselves.

No. 58.—Making Kannada the official language in all the departments.

Mr. MARULASIDDAPPA (Arsikere Taluk) and all the other **MEMBERS** of the Hassan District.

Mr. MARULASIDDAPPA stated that when statements in courts were made in Kannada by witnesses, the Magistrates and Munsiffs were in the habit of translating and recording them in English, and that there was every possibility of the statements not being recorded accurately When witnesses were examinad in Kannada, the recording of evidence also must be in Kannada. Further, Kannada was the language of the country and that should be the official language also in all the departments including civil and criminal courts. He therefore represented that needful orders be issued in the matter.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA supported the representation and said that there were many instances of mistakes having occurred in the course of translating statements made by witnesses in courts. Full justice could not be meted out to the parties unless the statements made in Kannada were recorded in that very language.

The CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT (Rajasevaprasaktha B. T. Kesavaiengar) observed that, in abstract principle, the representation appeared all right but in actual practice he was not aware of any instances of miscarriage of justice as a result of the present practice of recording in English statements made in Kannada by witnesses. It would not be in the interest of the public to abolish the existing practice all on a sudden.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA replied that he knew of many instances of the kind referred to. To cite only one example, a certain accused person made a confession that he was guilty, but the Magistrate's record was to the effect that the accused stated that he had committed a mistake. This mistake in recording was brought to light and got rectified on appeal.

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR replied that it would be correct to say that in the course of translation some mistakes might creep in. But soon after depositions were recorded in courts, they were invariably read out and accepted as correct by the party concerned. Such being the case, it would not be fair to say that mistakes occurred in depositions as recorded and led to miscarriage of justice.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA brought to notice that even summonses addressed to illiterate villagers were being written up in English instead of in Kannada. The villagers were often put to the necessity of having to take summonses to towns in order to know what they were about. He requested that summonses addressed to villagers might be ordered to be written up in Kannada

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao) replied that there were Kannada forms in existence already and that they would be made use of in such cases.

No. 59.—Declaring the Holy Prophet's Birthday as a general holiday.

Messrs. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG and **M. A. JABBAR** (Minorities).

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG represented that in all the British Indian Provinces as well as in the Postal Department, the Holy Prophet's Birthday was declared a general holiday. Besides, on that day, in all important places, meetings would be held and the teachings of the Holy Prophet explained to those present. Many non-Muslims also would attend such meetings and it would facilitate all those concerned to do so if the day in question was declared a general holiday. And if people of other communities also attended such meetings, a better understanding would come about amongst them. The existing communal dissensions would gradually disappear in that way and a real sense of brotherhood and mutual understanding would take root among members of the different communities.

Mr. SYED MOHIYUDDIN HUSSEIN, supporting the representation, stated that millions of people in all parts of the world looked up to the Holy Prophet as God. While Muharram, which was being observed in commemoration of the Holy Prophet's grandson, Hazarath Imam Hussain, had been

declared a general holiday, it was all the more necessary that the Prophet's birthday should be declared a general holiday.

Secondly, it was a big festival for all Muslims and a very important day from their religious point of view. Thirdly, as explained by the previous speaker, intending people of all communities must have the facility to participate in the meetings held on that day, so that a better understanding might be brought about among them.

The CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT (Rajasevaprasaktha B. T. Kesavaiengar) stated that Government certainly intended to give all necessary facilities for people of the different communities to celebrate the feasts which were important to them. But it was not considered necessary to give holidays on such days to people of other communities who were not concerned. If that was done, every community might come up with similar representations and public business would suffer very much.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB supported the representation on the analogy of Christmas Day which was a general holiday for all communities.

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR replied that the question of holidays was regulated by certain well-known general principles. It was in pursuance of those principles that Government had declared certain holidays as partial to the communities concerned and certain others as general, *i.e.*, common to all If those principles were departed from and the number of holidays increased, it would seriously hamper public business.

Mr. NAWAB SHER KHAN brought to notice that the question had come up before the Muslim Education Advisory Committee and it was resolved that the Holy Prophet's Birthday must be declared a general holiday.

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR stated that if the number of general holidays was added to, not only Government offices, but other institutions like banks and societies would have to be closed and public business, in which all communities were interested, was sure to suffer. It was therefore not desirable to increase the number of holidays And even without a general holiday on account of the Holy Prophet's Birthday there was nothing to prevent people of other communities also attending meetings which were generally held in the evenings.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB observed that this was evidently a question of religious sentiment. After all, adding one more general holiday to the list would not seriously hamper Government business. On the other hand it would make for a better understanding among all the communities if a general holiday was given on the Holy Prophet's Birthday. If non-Muslims were prepared to welcome Muslims at celebrations and religious meetings arranged by the former, the latter would be only too glad to attend and participate in such celebrations and meetings, considering the resulting advantages of such free intermingling of people professing different faiths. He therefore appealed to Government to consider this representation sympathetically.

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR replied that the representation, if granted, would introduce a new principle. Besides, there was no necessity for a holiday for non-Muslims on the day in question. He boped that Muslim members in the House would not consider it necessary to press the representation.

Mr. M. ABDUL JABBAR pointed out another difficulty in that the civil courts worked on that day and if parties who happened to be Muslims were not present at the hearings, their interests would certainly suffer.

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG added that similarly University Colleges also worked on the day in question and Muslim pupils who did not attend the classes had necessarily to forgo their lessons. He hoped that Government would show a generous gesture by accepting the representation.

The PRESIDENT replied that as explained by the Chief Secretary to Government, the proposal, if accepted, would introduce a needless innovation

and seriously interfere with public business. He thought that it would not be desirable, in the circumstances, to press the representation, at any rate, for the present.

Special Representation *re* Death of a Political Prisoner.

At this stage **the PRESIDENT** informed the House that Mr. Bhupalam R. Chandrasekharayya and 5 other members had given notice of a special representation relating to the death of a political prisoner, Mr. Prahlada Setty of Shimoga, and that the same might be discussed immediately. He added that the Inspector-General of Prisons would make a statement relating to that question with a view to helping the members to understand the case properly.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL of PRISONS (Rajasevasaktha B. K. Narayana Rao) made the following statement :—

The representation is as follows :

"One of the political prisoners at Byramangala, Mr. Prahlada Setty of Shimoga, recently died of typhoid in the Victoria Hospital. Certain persons who were co-prisoners with the deceased have, subsequent to their release, stated both in their public speeches and in writing, that Mr. Prahlada Setty did not receive proper medical treatment or necessary comforts while at Byramangala and that with fever on he was compelled to do out-door work for 2 days. Another allegation is that on those 2 days neither the medical officer attached to the prison nor the Superintendent was present. The movers have requested that these allegations may be examined. But they add that the father of the deceased has gratefully acknowledged that after the patient was transferred to the Victoria Hospital, he received very sympathetic attention at the hands of the doctors, that the Inspector-General of Prisons was making personal enquiries about the patient's condition, and that this special representation has reference only to the inadequate arrangements for medical attention and want of discipline in the jail. In addition to these allegations there seems to be an impression in certain quarters that the parents of the deceased were not informed of his illness sufficiently early. I understand also that some other vague allegation have been made in the course of public speeches made at Shimoga and elsewhere.

"Government have had all these allegations examined. I had myself gone to Byramangala for the purpose. I also saw the patient in the Victoria Hospital. I have obtained written statements from all the concerned officers and gone into all aspects of the case. And on the basis of the information before me I am now in a position to state as follows with reference to the three specific points referred to above.

"At about 7 P.M. on the 20th of March, Mr. Prahlada Setty complained of indisposition and pain in the body. The doctor examined him at once. It is not true that the prisoner was ill for 2 days prior to that. Neither did he complain to anybody nor was he examined, because there was no necessity for examining unless it be that the usual weekly examination fell due on that day. But since he complained on the 20th, he was specially examined and thereafter he was not sent out for work. I have before me a report made by the Superintendent of the jail, from which I see there were 18 instances of special examination whenever prisoners felt unwell and had to be returned from work. Mr. Prahlada Setty was not one who either so complained or was so examined. I find no reason to think that the doctor who examined every one who complained of any trouble failed to do so in this solitary instance.

"As regards the allegation that proper medical treatment and conveniences were not available to the patient while at Byramangala, I have made necessary enquiries and am convinced that proper food and treatment were given to him. I have looked into the jail records in original and they confirm that conclusion on my part.

"Temperature readings were taken regularly. From the 20th to the 26th the patient was having fever, no doubt,

but not high fever. As it persisted, they suspected on the 6th or 7th day that it might be a case of typhoid. I do not think a complaint can be made of that, either because the best of doctors cannot definitely say, till after the first 5 or 6 days what sort of fever it is. I have therefore nothing to say against the medical officers at Byramangala with regard to this case. I have, on the other hand, the fullest confidence in the professional ability and experience of the medical officer attached to the jail. His judgment was quite sound and correct.

"The patient was progressing satisfactorily until a relapse set in on the 23rd or 24th day. Even as the case was progressing satisfactorily, the doctor had proposed 2 or 3 times, to send the patient to the Victoria Hospital, but the patient had preferred not to go. But when the relapse set in, the doctor got a taxi and transferred the patient to the Victoria Hospital notwithstanding the fact that the latter preferred to stay at Byramangala. The doctor himself accompanied the patient to Bangalore and got him admitted. The patient remained there for 31 days. Daily reports were being received by me for some days by telephone or letter and periodical reports thereafter. Every possible care and attention was bestowed on the patient and in a few days the temperature came to normal. But then there was an abscess and it was operated on the 1st of April. Thereafter, unfortunately fresh boils began to appear. On the 8th of that month the Medical Officer in charge of the Victoria Hospital, Dr. Seshachalam, sent me a detailed report. The gist of the reports received so far was that the patient was progressing satisfactorily and that there was no room for anxiety. But 4 or 5 days later fever again appeared and on the 31st day after admission the patient had an internal hæmorrhage and died of that. Thus, there is no point in the allegation that the patient was made to work for 2 days with fever on and that therefore he died. As stated already, there is no reason to think that he had fever on the 19th and 20th of March; and even granting for the sake of argument that it was so, nobody can say that on that account complication set in on the 56th day.

"As regards the care and attention bestowed on the patient in the Victoria Hospital, his own friends and relations grant that there was nothing left to be desired. There is therefore no need for me to go into that question on this occasion.

"The next point for attention is the complaint that the parents were not sent for in time. It is not usual to send for the relatives of patients even in ordinary cases and much less so in the case of prisoner-patients. For 10 or 15 days after removal to the Victoria Hospital, the patient was a prisoner, but was then released. So there would have been no objection to sending word to the parents. But judged by the condition of the patient, there was no room for anxiety and no necessity for sending for anybody. If only the collapse was anticipated the parents might have been sent for even if the patient had continued to be a prisoner, *i.e.*, on purely humane considerations. But the fact was that nobody expected that the patient's condition would grow unexpectedly worse. For a number of days before his death, his parents were with him in the Victoria Hospital and I saw them during my visits to him at the Hospital. So there is no substance or truth in the allegation that there was any lack of responsibility or want of sympathy on the part of the medical officers."

There have been some other vague allegations made elsewhere, but I have confined myself to the representation before the House.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO.—Is there any declaration made by the deceased?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—I have myself admitted in my representation most of the statements made by the Inspector-General of Prisons. But there are one or two points on which I should welcome some elucidation. I am told that on the 18th and 19th or on the 19th and 20th, the boy represented to the authorities on the

spot that he had fever on and required rest. The doctor is a very good man and I am personally aware of it. But unfortunately he was not present at Byramangala on those 2 days. Nor was the Chief Superintendent of the Jail present. The in-charge Superintendent also was not there. The Daffedar appeared to be the only officer at the time and it was to him that the boy represented his condition. But that official appears to have told him, at 8 A.M. on the 19th, that he could not give him rest unless there were orders from the superior officers. Under such circumstances the boy was made to put in hard work in hot sun for 2 days, all the while with fever on, and consequently he fell seriously ill. The doctor then came and examined him. Permission to stay away was then given. That is what I understand from one Mr. Rajagopal, a co-prisoner with the deceased.

The second point which I beg may be clarified is this. The Medical Officer and the Superintendent no doubt were good men and looked after the patient with every care and sympathy. But all the necessary drugs and instruments were not available. For example, no thermometer was available for 8 or 10 days at a stretch. I am mentioning this with the only object that such drawbacks may be remedied in future. Again, after the patient was removed to the Victoria Hospital, he was made to spend a whole night in the open and it was only after he represented to the nurses that he was a political prisoner, the only son of his parents, and that he should kindly be accommodated inside, that he was given a bed in one of the wards. As regards the questions about intimation to the parents, they had none from the authorities at all. But they got it through some indirect source and soon after they went to the Victoria Hospital. They have written to me that they are very grateful to the authorities for all the attention and sympathy bestowed on their son. So I am not making any complaint about the treatment in the Victoria Hospital. But the point I am raising is about what happened at Byramangala. Why was it that so many officers were together absent on the 18th, 19th and 20th and was the official who was present on the spot competent or not competent to permit the patient to stay away?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—I think I have already answered those questions, but I have no objection to answer them again. On the 18th, 19th and 20th, all the officers were on duty and none of them was told by the prisoner that he was ill. If anybody says that the patient did represent his case to the authorities, I give you the assurance at once that the statement is not true. It was on the 20th night that the patient complained of pain in the chest and over the body, and as soon as he did that, the doctor examined him and allowed him rest. Whether the man was well or ill before the 20th instant, I cannot say for certain, but if anybody says that he told the officers that he was ill prior to that date, I am in a position to say definitely that it is not so. That is one point.

The second allegation is that no officer was present at the premises. My reply to that is that the Superintendent was present. The Chief Warder was on leave, but in his place there was a substitute. So the Chief Warder was also present. The doctor had received a summons from a court of law at Bangalore and so he was away at Bangalore. But the Sub-Assistant Surgeon of Bidadi was detained for duty as usual. As regards want of a thermometer, I may straightway say that it is a false allegation. As soon as I received this special representation, I suspected there must be some mistake somewhere and at once proceeded to the spot and made enquiries about it. This is how the local officers explained the reason for such a mistaken report getting abroad. On a certain day a thermometer broke, and people there presumed that that was the only thermometer available. So they began to say that there was no other. The truth was that the doctor brought another from his house and carried on without any trouble to anybody. The fact that a thermometer was broken has been recorded in the books of the jail. All

these relevant facts get entered in more than one register maintained by different officers and can be verified. I am altogether satisfied that the thermometer story is anything but true.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB.—How old was the patient in question?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—He was 22.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—I understand that political prisoners are not given certain necessary conveniences even when they are ill. For instance, they had no beds and rugs. They had to manage with only gunny bags and *kamblies*.

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—That is a new point, but I have no objection to answer that also. It is true that prisoners are not allowed all the conveniences which in-patients in the Victoria Hospital enjoy. But the question is whether the necessary comforts are permitted or not. I definitely say that such comforts are permitted in each and every case.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—The Inspector-General of Prisons was good enough to say that he had visited the place and made all necessary enquiries. If so, he may be pleased to enlighten me on one or two more points. Otherwise they may be gone into in the interests of truth: (1) whether or not it was a fact that on the 17th, 18th and 19th, the Jail Superintendent was away at Bangalore in connection with the Mokshagundam murder case, and (2) whether or not the deceased told the Daffedar who was the only official on duty that he had pain all over the body and required rest, but that the Daffedar replied that in the absence of orders from his official superiors, he could not permit the prisoner to stay away.

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—I can definitely say that it is not true.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO.—Was any other prisoner also ill at the time, or only that young man?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Only that unfortunate man was ill at the time mentioned. Some others have been unwell before and after the said dates.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO.—How many have been ill in all?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice, please.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO.—Was typhoid prevalent at the time?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No. But there were a few cases totalling three before and after that.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA.—Was there anything wrong with the drinking water?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No. In fact I made special enquiries about it. Drinking water is obtained from a channel and when fresh supply was received, it had some colour. So the water supplied for drinking purposes was being boiled and chlorinated. The Superintendent advised the prisoners not to take water from the channel but to take only boiled water. The Director of Health also went to the spot and examined the water. I did it too. So there was nothing wrong with the water. Because there were a few stray cases of infection, we may not be justified in generalizing. It might be that notwithstanding the caution given, this unfortunate young man partook of the channel water and caught infection. But that is only a surmise. I cannot definitely say where exactly he caught the infection.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) then spoke as follows:—

I have little to add to the detailed statement made by the Inspector-General of Prisons after making close enquiries and studying the medical records of the Byramangala jail. I should, however, like to place briefly before the members of the House the impressions which my colleague the Second Member of Council and myself formed during our respective visits to the jail at different times, as to the conditions of life and arrangements for the work of prisoners at Byramangala.

No one would expect elaborate arrangements to be made in a jail to provide comforts on the scale available in a high class hotel. On the other hand, it would be a mistake to suppose that the Byramangala jail is being used

as a sort of penal settlement. Nothing of the sort. As the members know, it is about three miles off the main road from Bangalore to Mysore. It is not in an out-of-the-way place but practically on the most frequented highway in the State. The climate of the place is quite good. A large number of officials and work people employed on the reservoir work are living in the colony. A number of buildings are being constructed close on a site selected by Maher Baba as a suitable place for a spiritual centre. The jail is situated on an elevated ground. The structures may not be of masonry, but they are quite substantial, commodious, well ventilated and well lit. The food given to the prisoners, according to their own version, is entirely satisfactory. As regards drinking water too, there is no complaint generally. It is well known that when floods are received in a stream, the water cannot but be turbid. But if such water is boiled and chlorinated, it is free from all danger. This was precisely what was done. The Assistant Engineer, the Sub-Overseer, the Sub-Assistant Surgeon, the Jail Superintendent and all the other officials at the place have been using the same water, and are none the worse for it. It is possible, as the Inspector-General of Prisons stated, that certain persons might have drunk untreated water from the stream and suffered on that account. But that does not mean that the general arrangements for water supply were defective. It is proposed shortly to instal jewell filters at Byramangala and the inmates of the jail as well as of the Public Works Department colony will then have filtered water.

The Byramangala jail was opened with the idea of giving prisoners work in the open air and providing in due course opportunities, which are lacking in the Central Jail at Bangalore, for the prisoners to occupy themselves with agricultural operations. The Byramangala jail has been started, experimentally. The idea is that the prisoners also should benefit from their detention and not merely undergo hard labour. At the same time, it should be borne in mind that when a man goes to jail, he must know that he cannot command all the comforts which he expects at home. Bearing this in mind, the House would be very pleased to learn that on the admission of some of the prisoners themselves the food given them at Byramangala is as good as and in many cases better than what they were having in their own homes. These points are mentioned just to show that neither Government nor the jail authorities can be charged with indifference towards the prisoners' health or parsimony in regard to their essential requirements. This being so, no separate assurance is needed that as soon as the patient under reference brought to the doctor's notice that he was ill, he was given rest and received the necessary attention.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—The hon. the First Member referred to the pursuit of agricultural avocations. May I know whether the prisoners are likely to benefit by any profits accruing to the jail as a result of the crops raised by the prisoners?

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—Profits! The member may not perhaps know that the average work put in by each of the prisoners at Byramangala is worth less than one anna per day. To be accurate, it is about 10½ pies. The work turned out by the ordinary labourer outside is between 4 and 6 annas, so that the outturn of work by the prisoners at Byramangala is a fraction of the work turned out by the ordinary labourers. On the day of my visit to the place, I saw a number of prisoners off duty. I asked why and was told that some of them were indisposed and others had prolonged rest in consideration of the fact that they had cooked food for the prisoners that morning.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—The Inspector-General of Prisons was saying that the patient was progressing satisfactorily but that there was a relapse. Relapse is a thing which is so common in cases of typhoid. Could not the medical officers have anticipated that, exercised their discretion and given an opportunity for the parents to remain by the patient's bedside?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—I am sorry to note that the position is again misunderstood. The illness had been improving by about the 14th April and there was no room for any anxiety whatever. It was only on that day that temperature again shot up. Even then the patient was reluctant to go to Bangalore, and the doctor promptly got a taxi and took him to Victoria Hospital on his own initiative. There was no necessity at all to send for the parents.

Special Representation *re* Removal of Restrictions on Village officers being Members of Political Organizations.

At this stage the PRESIDENT informed the House that Mr. Bhupalam R. Chandrasekharayya and seven others had given notice of another special representation to the effect that no restrictions should be placed on patels and shanbhogs being members of any political organisation which desired to achieve political progress purely by constitutional means and urging that any such restriction would be opposed to law and that he had admitted it for being discussed.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, moving the representation, stated that this question had come up for consideration before the Reforms Committee and that they were of the opinion that patels and shanbhogs should continue to enjoy the privilege of membership in the constitutional assemblies of the State, a privilege which they had long enjoyed. The Chief Secretary had recently stated that village officers should not be members of any political parties. If there was no objection to their standing for election to the public bodies, he did not see why they should not join political parties. If at all, they might be called semi-Government officials, or treated as contractors in respect of land revenue collections, taking a commission in the shape of *potgi*. If this was so, they ought to be allowed whatever privileges were open to contractors of all other kinds. It was true that if all the village officers became members of a subversive organisation or participated in any agitation against the Government, the administrative machinery would be disturbed. But the Government need not presume that all political parties would consist of agitators; or, a party which consisted of agitators at one time might not co-operate with the Government subsequently, in which case there need be no objection to the village officers joining or remaining as members of such a party.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER opposed the representation and stated that even under the ancient *barabaloothi* system, patels and shanbhogs were recognised as Government servants. As such he argued that they should not be allowed to join political parties. Otherwise, they would be a bad example to others, especially to those in the villages where the Government had bitter experience of the agitation engineered by certain people within recent years. It would be idle to argue that village officers were equal in status to contractors who were out and out non-officials. The very nature of the business of village officers differed from that of contractors. Besides, a contract was meant for a particular purpose and was expected to last for a specified period. The appointments of patels and shanbhogs, on the other hand, were hereditary. Besides, the consequences of patels and shanbhogs getting up or participating in agitations against the Government would be very serious. Government revenue would suffer, law and order would suffer, and the very prestige and importance of Government would be undermined. He therefore requested the Government not to entertain the representation.

Patel BALE GOWDA further opposed the representation. He was also of the opinion that patels and shanbhogs could not be considered as contractors. The patel was the first citizen of the village and if he should be left free to set a bad example, all the villagers would follow suit, and Government would come to a stand-still.

Mr. K. N. PUTTANNA stated that many patels and shanbhogs had misused certain privileges which Government had given them. He was sorry to

have to remark that they lacked loyalty and supported movements that were subversive. That was why Government had been compelled to say that village officers should not participate in political organizations in future. Secondly, after the recent district board elections, the Congress members held a meeting at Nanjangud, and one particular person who was present at the meeting had published the proceedings thereof. It was clear, to put it mildly, that Government had been held to ridicule. That incident was enough to indicate the attitude of certain patels and shanbhogs who were members of the Congress party towards Government. After quoting extracts from proceedings of some other meetings held or attended by congressmen including certain village officers, the speaker emphasized that it was highly desirable that the privilege so far enjoyed by shanbhogs and patels in respect of membership of constitutional bodies should now be withdrawn by Government.

Mr. MAYI GOWDA, however, supported the representation. He was of opinion that patels and shanbhogs were not whole-time Government servants and therefore they could not be called Government servants, in the strict sense of the term. They had been enjoying the privilege of membership on the Assembly and local bodies for quite a long period and they should not be deprived of it all on a sudden without sufficient cause. It might be that some of them had become congressmen and participated in objectionable activities. After all, ten Congress movement would not go on for ever in the State and was bound to disappear sooner or later. Generally speaking, village officers were working honestly, and because of the action of a few, it would not be fair to deprive an entire class of persons of the privileges, which they had enjoyed for so long a time. Again, considering the very small bonus paid to them by the Government for their collection work, any such severe restrictions in the matter of their general activities or freedom of action would not at all be justifiable. He was of opinion that Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya's reference to them as contractors was quite appropriate. He therefore appealed to Government not to deprive patels and shanbhogs of the privilege in question.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB opposed the representation. It was clear, he said, that village officials were Government servants from the fact that Government had the power to appoint, dismiss and suspend those officials. Further they were persons who wielded a good deal of influence in the villages and it would not be in public interest if they had opportunities of setting a bad example to the ignorant villagers. It was well known that in connection with the recent district board elections, considerable havoc was played by certain disloyal persons, among whom were some village officials also. If they had been conscientious in the discharge of their duties, they would not have found time for participating in such movements. In other words, public work would suffer if they were allowed to participate in elections. They should not be allowed to become members of district boards or other local bodies without special permission, and they should on no account be permitted to join any political parties.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO pointed out that as a mark of recognition of the esteem and influence commanded by patels and shanbhogs in their respective villages, His Highness the Maharaja had been pleased to permit them not merely to vote at but also to stand for election to the Assembly. Another reason for the latter concession was the fact that these were the best qualified, by reason of their close touch with the people, to put before the Government the wants and grievances of the people. In the existing state of education in rural areas, they were also the best informed people. Even though they worked for the Government as village officers, they did so more in the interests of the people who were their fellow-citizens and not for the honorarium which they were receiving

in the form of a small *potgi*. The Reforms Committee, he said, had also acknowledged these facts in their report on Constitutional Reforms in Mysore. Such being the case, he said that Government should not act against the spirit of the reforms and impose any restraint on their freedom. Their eligibility for election entitled them to join any recognized party which would, in due course, become a limb of the Government. In this connection, he reminded the President of the following wholesome sentiment expressed by him in his Opening Address :—

" We have, in the course of the deliberations of the last two years, tuned up our political machine to the greatest point of perfection which we can reach at the present time, and it is for us now to take counsel together as to the objectives which we should endeavour with its aid to reach . . . "

and requested the Government to make a note of the democratic feeling in the public that it was not desirable for the Government to back any horse in the election races; because, elections should stand intact and that in attempting to interfere with the existing rights of non officials, the Government should not create the impression that they were interested in setting up certain types of candidates and working for the defeat of others, etc.

Mr. N. Bhogi MALLIAH brought to notice that in a small taluk like Heggaddevankote, he found the patels and shanbhogs openly preaching, in connection with the recent district board elections, that people should vote for Congress nominees. Even hand to hand fight was about to occur in the contest. These village officers were responsible men of the place, but in his opinion they must be characterized as the most irresponsible people in so far as they participated in subversive movements.

Mr. ABDUL RASOOL SAB who also spoke against the adjournment motion, pointed out that it was usual with the local Congress leaders to visit villages and, taking advantage of the ignorance of the people, to impose their political views, raise false hopes in their unsophisticated minds and create in them a prejudice against organized government. Generally, it was the patel, shanbhog and the school master of the village who welcomed the congressmen and aided them in propaganda work. They would organize processions, yoking several pairs of bullocks to the cart which needed only a single pair, with the object of giving an appearance of grandeur to the function and thus exaggerate the importance of the Congress people. Thus, starting the function with a flourish they would succeed in winning over the villagers for their subversive activities and thereafter, whatever the Congress people said became a law unto them. Because the Musalmans as a class had abstained themselves from the Congress movement, they became an object of derision to them. For these reasons, he emphasized the need for restraining the participation of patels, shanbhogs and school masters in Congress activities.

ANOTHER MEMBER (a patel) protested against the sweeping remark of the previous speaker indicting the entire class of patels and shanbhogs, and characterized it as irresponsible.

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK who spoke next, pointed out that any agitation which had a moral backing to justify it was sure to receive proper support and no authority, however mighty, could stem the tide or suppress it for all time. But if it was not moral, necessary support would not be available to it. So far as the local Congress workers went, he was of opinion that they could not rise above selfish motives and that was the reason why the Congress candidates who contested the elections in the Kadur District Board did not fare well. This incident itself proved that there was no fear of subversive movements securing support for all time to come. He therefore felt that no restriction need be imposed by means of rules on the freedom of village officers to stand for election from any recognised party as that would tantamount to interfering with the democratic nature of the elections.

Mr. K. C. SUBBANNA brought to notice that originally patels and

shanbhogs were debarred from standing for elections to public bodies, but that right was bestowed on them subsequently and it continued to be the rule in Mysore thereafter. Whereas in Madras, the popular Government itself had deprived these officers of this privilege. Seeing that the local Government had not taken any such retrograde step in Mysore, he requested the mover not to press his special representation.

Mr. GURUBASAPPA complained that the shanbhog of Honganur who had the shanbhogi of 4 villages and was very influential being also a moneylender besides, had identified himself actively with canvassing votes for the Congress candidates. He had gone to the length of preventing some of the raiyats from reaping their crops, because they had not voted for the Congress candidates. He requested that the matter should be enquired into and proper steps taken against guilty persons.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman), speaking on behalf of Government, explained that in 1938 the Revenue Commissioner had issued a circular to the effect that patels and shanbhogs should not participate in political activities nor could they be members of any political organization. Thereupon a resolution was moved in the Assembly about the implications of the circular and all the questions referred to in the speeches on the subject now before the House were discussed on that occasion at great length. The mover of the special representation Mr. Bhupalam R. Chandrasekharayya, had participated largely in the discussions on that occasion also. In answering the several points raised then in the House, Government had clearly explained their views as to whether patels and shanbhogs were Government servants or not and how they were expected to conduct themselves in respect of political movements. Such being the case, **the SECOND MEMBER** expressed surpise at Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya's bringing up the same subject over again. All the same, he took this opportunity to reiterate what had then been stated on behalf of Government. In the opinion of Government, patels and shanbhogs were Government servants; and because they were Government servants, they had to act up to the "Public Servants' Conduct Rules."

Having said that, he reminded the House that originally the village officers were disqualified from membership of the Assembly or the Legislative Council. Subsequently, however, it was felt that the interest of rural population would be better served by extending to village officers the right of membership to the two bodies and that was why the privilege was extended to them. From this, it would be clear that the mover's statement that the privilege was being enjoyed by them for decades together was not at all correct.

He next adverted to the point that the popular ministers themselves had issued an order taking away the privilege of membership from this class of public servants in Madras and elsewhere and pointed out that conditions in Mysore were different from those in the British Indian provinces. The patels and shanbhogs possessed first-hand knowledge of the wants and grievances of the raiyats and by giving them scope for representation on the constitutional bodies, Government believed that the interests of villagers would be properly served.

Mr. ANANTARAMAN next proceeded to examine whether it was proper or not to restrain them from membership on any political organization. Taking the case of the patel, he mentioned that he had been vested with the powers of a police officer within the jurisdiction of his village. If a political party visited his village and did anything illegal or objectionable, it was his duty to report the fact promptly to the higher authorities. Such being the case, he asked the House to imagine what the position would be if the patel himself happened to be a member of political body. In this connection, the speaker narrated an incident that occurred when he was the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore.

A certain person belonging to the Congress came to be arrested for some offence. Because of that, a certain patel who happened to be the kinsman of the arrested person, thought it fit to apply for leave, citing as reason the arrest of his relation which had so upset his mind as to leave no inclination on his part for attending to Government work. If such a spirit should be tolerated, he asked how Government work was to get on. At the same time, he hastened to point out that the same thing could not be said of all patels and shanbhogs. Still the fact remained that there was a fairly large number of such instances and that some of them, at any rate, had been actually brought to the notice of Government; and these related to cases of participation in politics, levelling charges against Government, giving wrong information to Government about their knowledge of certain people, etc. If such sort of things was allowed to be perpetuated, he said that it would bring about anarchy in the State and not good government.

Continuing, **the MEMBER of COUNCIL** referred to the contention that what the village officers were receiving from Government was only an honorarium and not pay and observed that whatever it be, it was a payment made by Government for services rendered by the village officer concerned and he was morally bound to abide by the conditions attached to such service. He then made the point clear that if any village officers did not like to continue in service under those conditions, he was welcome to resign the post and have his own way. Otherwise, he was afraid that they would begin to exercise all their influence in the village in favour of the party of which they might happen to be members; and he emphasized that no sane person could admit that that would be a safe thing to allow.

Proceeding, **the MEMBER** explained that when this question had come up for examination before the Committee on Constitutional Reforms, many of the members held the view that patels and shanbhogs should not be empowered to stand for election for identical reasons which must have weighed with the popular ministers in the adjoining provinces. But taking into consideration local conditions, local traditions and absence of any serious incidents in the past, the Committee recommended the continuance of the right of membership to them, and that recommendation was duly accepted by Government. He next referred to the psychological aspect of the question and said that when certain speakers started with the presumption that the village officers were not Government servants, it was quite possible for them to argue the point in their own favour. Hence he said that, in order to set at rest all controversies, the Government wished it to be clearly understood that the rules governing the conduct of public servants in Mysore would apply to the case of village officers also *in toto*.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, interrupting the speaker suggested that they might be treated as semi-Government servants.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN remarked that a servant was a servant and that there was no principle in arguing that one was a half servant or quarter servant.

To sum up his arguments, **Mr. ANANTARAMAN** reiterated with, emphasis that patels and shanbhogs should never take part in any political agitation for the simple reason that it was detrimental to the proper discharge of their duties. Such political agitation, for example, might relate to alleged high rates of land revenue; and if the village officers who were the very persons entrusted with the collection of the land revenue, should join such agitation, and go on commenting on their employer, *viz.*, the Government, and contend that rates of assessment were heavy and must be lowered, etc., he asked the House to imagine how the land revenue could be collected at all. For these reasons, he said that Government were definitely of the opinion that village officers were to be treated as Government servants and they should not be members of any political party.

At this stage, **Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO** enquired if specific rights conceded under a statute could be over-ridden by means of an executive order.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that under the rules, no Government servant could ordinarily stand for election to any public body. But there was a provision in the Act exempting the village officers from the operation of such a rule. Thus, this was only an exception. Hence joining a political party and setting up an agitation on the actions of Government were not permissible.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, however, held the view that so long as exemption had been granted to them from the operation of the disqualification rule, it was to be presumed that they might join any recognized political party. While agreeing that these village officers should not take part in subversive movements, he wondered whether the Government could object to their joining peaceful and non-violent agitations.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that what was non-violent on one day might turn out to be violent on the next day.

The PRESIDENT observed that it was not possible to accept the interpretation of Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya.

Adjournment Motion.

Cumulative Voting System.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA moved for—

"the adjournment of this House for discussing an urgent matter of public importance, *viz.*, the policy underlying the principle of introducing the cumulative voting system at the ensuing Mysore Representative Assembly and Legislative Council elections in September 1940."

In doing so, he thanked the President for having admitted the motion for discussion in the House. He explained that till the year 1932, the system of distributive voting was in vogue, according to which single votes could be cast in favour of one or more candidates as the voter liked, and the candidates securing the largest number of votes were declared elected. Then a committee was appointed and according to the recommendations of that committee, the system of Proportional Representation by means of the Single Transferable Vote was adopted, and this system was in vogue for a few years. In the Dasara Session of the Representative Assembly, 1934, a resolution was moved bringing to notice certain inconveniences inherent in that system. But Government were not convinced of the existence of any great defects in that system or difficulties in its working, and justified it on certain grounds, *viz.*, that it would do away with the predominance of particular communities and the possibility of communal feelings influencing elections, that the system had worked very satisfactorily in British India, and that in any constitutional House which was meant to give expression to popular views for the information of the Executive Government, it was necessary that all shades of opinion should be represented. These were the basic principles underlying the adoption of that system of elections. But it was adopted only in respect of a few multi-member constituencies, *viz.*, the Representative Assembly constituency (which was then returning eight members to the Legislative Council), the City Municipalities constituencies and the University constituency. It was not made applicable to rural areas. All the same, the Government had great faith in that particular system, and it was being followed ever since. But in the rules recently framed under the Government of Mysore Act, 1940, that system was replaced by the cumulative system of voting. It was claimed for the new system that there would be no wastage of votes at all. But this advantage, in his opinion, was more than counterbalanced by the defect that a candidate from a minority group might sweep the polls to the detriment of all other candidates. To illustrate his meaning, he took the example of Bangalore City which had been assigned 4 seats in the Representative Assembly. If a candidate of the minority community should contest a seat as against another candidate belonging to the majority community and if there should be 400 voters in all, it was possible that 300

voters might give one vote each in favour of the latter and the remaining 100 might concentrate all their votes in favour of the minority candidate. And the result would be that as against 300 votes polled by the candidate of the majority party, the minority candidate would be polling 400 votes. Thus a candidate commanding the confidence of three-fourths of the electors might be defeated in the election and his rival having influence with only a fourth of the electors might get returned. Thus, he said that the cumulative system was opposed to democratic principles.

Before concluding, **Mr. B. L. BYANNA** said that this was how he understood the new cumulative system would work. If, however, there were any powerful reasons to justify its adoption in preference to the existing system, he requested that he might be enlightened on the point so that he might change his mind, if need be. In any case, he assured the House that it was not his intention to press the motion to a division.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB, in opposing the motion, observed that in all the British Indian provinces, only cumulative system of elections was in force. That system of distributing the votes gave full freedom of choice to the voter and enabled him to throw in his full weight in favour of one candidate in whom he had complete faith. This system of election had been brought into force by the popular governments which came to power in the British Indian provinces after the Government of India Act of 1935 was given effect to. He therefore welcomed the new system as being best suited for the parliamentary system of Government.

Mr. K. C. SUBBANNA also opposed the motion. Under the cumulative system, there was scope for all communities including minorities to secure representation on constitutional bodies. The basic principle of democracy should be to safeguard the interest of minority communities by providing suitable representation for them in all constitutional bodies. As this principle could be fully satisfied by the new system of elections, the speaker said that it ought to be preferred to all other systems. The principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote was difficult of comprehension by the average elector in the country.

Mr. K. N. PUTTANNA brought to notice the main defect in the system of majority votes noticed in connection with the selection of subjects at district meetings for inclusion in the agenda of the Representative Assembly. The subjects sent up by members of the majority community were being selected without any trouble while those tabled by the minorities could not ordinarily get included. This showed clearly that the interests of the minorities was not being safeguarded so well under that system. It had been stated clearly in certain published reports preceding the Government of India Act, 1935, that if the majority communities were not communal in their outlook, there would have been no need to devise any special safeguards for the minorities. So far as conditions in Mysore went, he regretted to state that the general tendency was to secure selfish interest rather than serve the larger interests of the country as a whole. For this one reason alone, he thought that the cumulative system of elections should be adopted. Taking the position obtaining in rural constituencies into consideration, he said that the voters of a hobli would generally vote only for a candidate belonging to that particular hobli and not for one whose interest might extend to the entire taluk. Whereas under the cumulative system, candidates belonging to all parties, both majority and minority, as well as those who stood independently, would have a chance of being returned. Thus all shades of opinion would secure representation. For these reasons, he favoured the cumulative system of elections.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA looked at the motion before the House from two points of view, *viz.*, (1) to what extent it would go to wipe off communal feeling, and (2) how it would affect the interests of the Depressed Classes. As regards

the first point, he said that in the country's interests, it was essential that political parties should be built up and not parties actuated by communal considerations. If the Government should indirectly encourage communal parties, because just at this time they were out to put down one particular political party, he was afraid that though it might bring in some temporary benefits, in the long run it would prove prejudicial to the best interests the State.

So far as the Depressed Classes were concerned, they had been given the benefit of reserved seats under a system of joint electorate—a system which, in the speaker's opinion, was much better than what was contemplated in the Poona Pact. But he suggested that the system of cumulative voting might be made applicable in their case also and tried for a few years. If that system was not found to help that community, he said that it could be altered suitably later on.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH endorsed the view of the previous speaker that political questions should not be viewed with a communal bias. For the same reason he said that every scheme of administrative reform should proceed on non-communal lines and aim at the advancement of the country as a whole. He was glad that this principle had been followed in regard to the future constitution of the Representative Assembly by dispensing with the system of nomination so far as minority communities were concerned and confining it to special interests. As regards the new system of cumulative voting, he said that it would be a decided improvement over the present system. Taking for example that there were two distinct interests in the State, one backed by 1,000 voters and the other by 999, the former might sponsor a particular question and carry it through even though the latter might oppose it. But could the decision on that question be said to have real popular backing? Another point to be borne in mind was the low percentage of literacy in the country and the inability of a majority of voters to exercise their franchise with discretion. But their views were, all the same, entitled to consideration. And if those in the majority were invariably to have their own way, that would be opposed to principles of true democracy and would do no credit to any form of government. That the minorities also should be heard on all important matters was a proposition which could no longer be disputed, and it was also desirable that Government re-shaped its policies and re-adjusted its programme of work in the light of any representations that might be made by such minorities. The speaker was definitely of opinion that the best government was that which attempted to satisfy all shades of opinion and all schools of thought, to the extent possible.

He was not prepared to say that political outlook in Mysore was free from prejudices. These were prominently in evidence in connection with elections. It was because of this that Government must have thought of replacing the existing system of elections by the cumulative method. Without the cumulative system of voting he was of opinion that the very object of granting reforms would be defeated. There would then be no means of securing the representation of minority parties or of independent candidates. Representation of minorities by direct election was no doubt being secured under the system of proportional representation, but the cumulative system was an improvement over that in securing different shades of opinion. He therefore welcomed its introduction.

Mr. N. HANUMANTHAPPA expressed the gratefulness of his (depressed class) community to Government for having reserved 30 seats for it in the Representative Assembly and for having extended to it the right of exercising votes as part of the general electorate subject to certain reservation. He prayed that Government should never think of altering that system.

Mr. MISRILALL PARASMALL spoke in English as follows :—Sir, Government have conferred a boon on the minority communities by introducing the cumulative system of voting. It affords

protection to the interests not only of minority communities but also of minority parties. If this system is not accepted, there will he a chance for a single communal or political party to over-ride the minority communities and minority parties. So, I whole-heartedly support this system.

One thing I have to suggest in this connection is this, that the public are not yet in a position to know the benefits of this system. So I request Government to make the advantages of the proposed system known throughout the State, through their Publicity Officer.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Thank you for the suggestion.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA thanked the Government for introducing the cumulative system and said that if only it had been adopted before the recent district board elections, the results of the elections would have been quite different from what they were and there would have been no predominance of a particular political party. The new system would make it possible for all communities and interests to secure representation. It would be impossible to think of separate electorates for each and every minority community.

Mr. HANUMANTHIAH welcomed the cumulative system of voting as being specially favourable to the Depressed Classes in their present condition.

Mr. MIRZA AZIZULLA BEIG endorsed the view that if the district board elections had been conducted under cumulative system of voting, a better representation of various interests could have been secured and there would have been no need for the Government to make any nominations. With 6 per cent of literacy in the State, no other system would have the effect of securing representation for different shades of opinion in the councils of the State. He said that this system should be continued till at least 50 per cent of the voters became literate. This was a safeguard against the sweeping of polls by a single political party, who worked upon the unsophisticated minds of illiterate voters by certain catch-words, slogans and wild promises. The new system would develop a discriminatory sense on the part of the voters which was lacking under the existing system. He therefore had great pleasure in welcoming the cumulative voting.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that in view of further experience Government had decided to replace the existing system of elections by the cumulative system as otherwise it might not be possible to secure representation for all shades of opinion. Thus, he felt that the cumulative system was an improvement over the other systems of elections.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA, in replying to the debate, pointed out that in 1934 the Government had expressed the opinion in the Representative Assembly that the system of proportional representation was best suited to conditions in Mysore since it provided for a proper representation of all communities. He was now at a loss to know what it was that had induced Government to change that view within a short period of six years and dispense with that system in favour of cumulative voting. He concluded by stating that his only object in moving the adjournment motion was to seek enlightenment on the point at issue and that he had no intention of pressing the motion to a division.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) stated that from the speeches made in the House on the motion under discussion, it was clear that the consensus of opinion was in favour of the system of cumulative vote as being best suited to conditions prevailing in the State. As pointed out by Mr. Byanna, he stated that the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote was adopted in Mysore in 1934 in respect of elections from certain specified constituencies. That member, however, seemed to think that the proposed system was something totally different from the older system of the single transferable vote, though in point of fact, it was not so. The principle underlying both the systems was the same: that some representation should be secured for important minorities also; it was only the method that differed.

Proceeding to explain the details of the cumulative system, **Mr. N. MADHAVA**

RAU stated that, in the first place, the cumulative vote was to apply only in the case of multi-member constituencies and not to single-member constituencies of which there were quite a large number in the State. For example, in the case of the Representative Assembly itself, there were 39 urban single-member constituencies and the cumulative system of voting would not apply to them. There were 8 rural constituencies returning a single member each and the new system would not apply in their case also. Nor would it apply to 26 of the Muslim constituencies. Thus it would apply to the 2 city constituencies, 75 rural constituencies, 2 Muslim constituencies and 1 Indian Christian constituency, all of which would be returning 2, 3 or 4 members as the case might be.

He next took up the case of the Legislative Council elections and explained that there were only 9 multi-member constituencies to which the new system would apply.

Continuing, Mr. MADHAVA RAU referred to the fears expressed by some members that the new system would result in importing communal considerations into politics and said that he was unable to agree in that view; on the other hand, political parties might spring up based on well-defined political objects and ideals. Simply because a particular party or group had numerical strength in its favour, sometimes probably a very slight majority, it would not be reasonable for it to contend that all the seats should be monopolised by itself. By way of illustrating the point, he explained that supposing there were 600 voters in a 3-member constituency, according to the old system of distributive voting one party alone could monopolise all the three seats and the next numerically strong party with even 250 adherents might count for nothing; whereas, under the system of cumulative vote, if a party had more than 200 voters and was organized on proper lines, it was sure to secure one seat, leaving the majority party to take away the other two seats. The principle behind the new system was that a party with the backing of a majority of voters should secure a large number of seats, and at the same time, other parties which were not numerically so strong, should also get some share of representation proportioned to their strength. That was a principle which was finding favour with democratic countries of the West including England.

The MEMBER next cited the opinion of the Indian Franchise Committee as to the best form of voting suited to the country, *viz.*,

". . . . . In multi-member constituencies, we recommend the use of the cumulative vote. Under this system, every voter will have the right to use as many votes as there are candidates. He may use these votes as he desires, 'plumping' them all for one candidate or distributing them."

The Indian Delimitation Committee had expressed the following opinion on the same question :—

". . . . . As regards other multi-member constituencies, we are not in favour of the adoption of the method of distributive votes and we are of opinion that any advantages that it might have are more than out-weighed by the very definite advantages which we see in the doctrine of cumulative system in multi-member constituencies."

Proceeding, Mr. MADHAVA RAU observed that the matter might be examined from three points of view. First, there was no kind of restriction on the elector as to how his discretion should be exercised. If there were three seats to be filled in a constituency, the voter was free to give all the three votes to one and the same candidate, or two votes to one and the third vote to another. This much of liberty was not to be found in any other system. Secondly, from the point of view of the candidate, it would be difficult for him to approach individually all voters and canvass votes from each and every one of them. In the case of a multi-member constituency, he might approach only a certain number of select voters so that, even though such voters were not in a majority, the candidate might secure a seat with the help of the extra votes which they might cast in his favour. In other words, without doing much canvassing and undergoing much trouble, a candidate, if he had sufficient influence, might get elected. Thirdly, from the point of view of groups or parties, they would secure a certain number of seats according to their

respective voting strength. Because of these definite advantages **the MEMBER** said that this system of cumulative voting was in vogue in Bombay and some other British Indian Provinces for several years past. Particularly in Bombay, this system was said to have worked for so long as 15 years and worked quite satisfactorily, and public opinion there was strongly in favour of the retention of the cumulative system of voting.

In the opinion of Government, the cumulative system of voting was the one system that would give fair chances to the different parties, groups and shades of opinions, and the speaker was glad to find that the same opinion had been expressed by a large number of members in the House.

The adjournment motion was not pressed.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB requested permission to move his resolution on the budget relating to the provision of more scholarships for Musalmán students.

The PRESIDENT observed that it would be treated as a representation and the matter would be duly considered by Government.

PRESIDENT'S CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Mr. C. K. VENKATARAMAIYA, Kannada Translator to Government, then read the Kannada translation of the President's Concluding Remarks which were as follows :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In concluding this session of the Representative Assemby, I shall, as is customary, make a few observations with regard to some of the more important matters which we have been discussing.

It is a source of deep satisfaction to me to think that the budget for 1940-41 placed before you has been so well received. If it has not been possible for Government to provide more funds under certain heads as desired by some of the members, it is not due to want of desire on the part of Government to meet their wishes, but only to financial limitations. However, in accordance with your desire, the grant for Village Improvement (Rural Reconstruction) will be enhanced by Rs. 50,000, of which Rs. 30,000 will be allotted for malnad and the remainder for maidan villages.

Some members have referred to vocational education and requests have been made for increased facilities in this direction in middle schools. At the present moment the Department is spending over half a lakh of rupees a year on practical instruction classes in general schools, and there is considerable reason for believing that the purpose for which these vocational classes were instituted is not being achieved, and that in consequence some of the money might perhaps be better spent in other ways. The question is being examined by the Director of Public Instruction who considers that candidates who take these vocational subjects, particularly in middle schools, do so with no idea of making any subsequent use of the training they receive, but simply because subjects, such as agriculture, brass-work, tailoring, lacquer-work, etc., are easier than Hygiene and Sanskrit in the Middle School Examination. Further enquiries have still to be made, but there would appear to be grounds for the view that vocational instruction is better given in proper technical schools run by the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Industries and Commerce.

The usual representations have been made regarding reduction of fees in high schools. These requests appear regularly, and in no case has the mover of such a representation been able to give any facts in support of his proposal. It has been clearly shown that in Mysore not only are high school fees lower than those prevailing in Madras, Travancore and Cochin and considerably lower than those prevailing in the north of India, but in addition the help given in this State to pupils in secondary schools in the shape of scholarships and freeships is proportionately many times greater than that available in neighbouring States and Provinces. The facts

of the case have been clearly placed before the members during the course of the proceedings of this Assembly, and in the light of the facts and figures given, no case can be made out for a reduction of high school fees. In this State, Government bear a proportion of the expenditure on secondary education which is double and even treble that borne by Governments in some other parts of India. The fees charged are lower, and the help given to students is vastly greater. Government have no intention of raising fees in high schools, but if they desired to do so, an unanswerable case could be made out for such a change.

The question of raising the salaries of all grades of teachers in the Education Department has long received the anxious consideration of Government, but the size of that Department makes questions of salary re-organization financially difficult. Some little time ago, Government sanctioned a re-organization scheme affecting the salaries of teachers in high schools and middle schools. On account of certain technical difficulties the scheme actually sanctioned could not be given effect to, and Government are now awaiting a revised one from the Director. The new scheme will improve the prospects of a considerably larger number of teachers than those formerly benefited. The poverty of the teachers in primary schools has also long been a concern to Government, and a scheme is being worked out by the Department which will enhance the pay and prospects of these poorly paid members of the Department, at a cost to Government of approximately two additional lakhs of rupees a year. At the present moment, out of approximately 8,000 primary school teachers, only about 700 are in receipt of salaries above Rs. 20 a month. The final details of the new scheme have not yet been compltely worked out, but it is hoped that about 2,500 teachers will under the new scheme get salaries above Rs. 20. When these salary re-organizations are in full operation, the ultimate increased cost to Government may not be far short of three lakhs of rupees a year.

By a resolution, all but unanimous, the House has asked for the postponement of the general elections to the Representative Assembly until February or March next. As the First Member of Council explained, it was Government's intention to bring the reforms into operation in October next, despite the various inconveniences inevitable in the holding of the elections during the rainy season, especially in the malnad. But we must recognise that the times are out of joint. There is, in addition, the fact that September is not such a convenient month to hold the elections We propose to consult the Legislative. Council also and come to a decision, taking all relevant facts into consideration.

More than one member of the House drew attention to the necessity of improving the existing facilities for tank irrigation. Particular stress was laid on the question of making the minor tanks in the State more serviceable. I need not tell you that Government fully realize the supreme importance of the construction and restoration of minor tanks. Let me assure you that special efforts will be made in the coming year to give you the utmost satisfaction in this respect.

It is the definite policy of Government to give larger and larger grants for the betterment of the villages. Provision of drinking-water wells and of amenities like panchayet halls, inter-village roads, planting of fruit trees and sanitation—all these things are receiving attention, but I confess that I should like to see better and speedier results achieved in every one of these directions. We—I mean you as representing the public and the officials—should not be satisfied until every village commands the comforts which a town or a city enjoys. I hope that none of you harbours any idea in his mind that the administration concentrates attention upon the cities and does not pay sufficient attention to the villages. I hold the view that the acid test of an administration is the condition of the villages. It is no great credit to any country or its administration that it possesses grand cities and languishing

villages, for the latter are no less important than the former and deserve no less attention. I am not one of those who are satisfied with the condition of our villages. I feel that we have not touched even the fringe of the problem. It is only by continuous and persistent effort and by the fullest co-operation between the people of the villages and the officials that substantial progress can be hoped for, and I hope that neither you nor we will be lacking in that spirit of service which alone can overcome obstacles and achieve success.

Vote of Thanks.

With a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. D. VENKATARAMANAPPA and with three cheers to His Highness the Maharaja, the Assembly adjourned *sine die* at 11-50 A.M.

BANGALORE,
Dated 16th September 1940.

H. V. NARAYANA RAO,
Secretary, Mysore Representative Assembly.